

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims so as to read as follows:

- 8/20/4
M.C.
Not entered
1. (Withdrawn) A data distribution system, comprising:
 - a plurality of data sources each capable of transmitting a data item; and
 - a data vending machine capable of receiving the data item from said plurality of data sources and selling the received data item to a user; wherein said data vending machine includes
 - a data selecting apparatus operated by a user to select a desired data item,
 - a data source selecting apparatus connected to said data selecting apparatus, and selecting, among said plurality of data sources, that one holding the data item selected by said data selecting apparatus, in accordance with a specific standard,
 - a data receiving apparatus connected to said data source selecting apparatus and receiving said selected data item from the data source selected by said data source selecting apparatus, and
 - a data updating apparatus to which an external storage device is detachably mounted, for writing the data item received by said data receiving apparatus to said external storage device.